



CALPEEK

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PART 7: CLINT REILLY VS. WILLIE & THE 49ERS.

Editor's note: This week in Part VII of our continuing series on *public funding of sports facilities* we'll focus on the revenue bond deal in San Francisco to help out the NFL's 49ers. Here's our update & analysis...

...The S.F. Chronicle's *Matier & Ross* have reported that retired campaign consultant Clint Reilly may come out of retirement to help organize the **opposition** to Measures D & E on S.F.'s June 3rd ballot. These measures would authorize \$100 million in city revenue bonds and change the land use so that the 49er organization can build a new 74,000-seat stadium and shopping mall in the Hunter's Point area of S.F. The 49ers will put up \$425 million. Why the new stadium with more luxury boxes? The 49ers say they need luxury box revenue to pay for high-priced jocks (*Show Me the Money*). It's all part of what *Texas Monthly* calls the Greater Fool Theory. Sports owners spent too much (on salaries, etc.) and now they're hoping that a *greater fool* will come along and bail them out...

...Reilly's announcement that he may help organize the opposition to this deal is about as welcome as a turd in a swimming pool. What impact would Reilly have? A respected SF political source told **Calpeek**: "If he's in, it's a big deal." Most other sources tend to agree with that assessment. Reilly told **Calpeek** that he's not going to run this campaign, but would agree to give some money and be a part of an overall steering committee. Passage of D & E was always considered an uphill fight (S.F. Chronicle survey, Oct. 12-15, 600 voters --- 65% opposed to a new stadium with some public funds)...

...Sources tell **Calpeek** that the stadium/shopping mall proponents will spend about \$2 million and it only takes 50% to win approval. Nevertheless, you have to ask this question: Aside from Mayor Willie Brown and the S.F. Bd. of Supes, where's the support? Where are

former mayors Dianne Feinstein, Art Agnos, Joe Alioto and Frank Jordan? On the opposition side, not much has jelled here either. For example, where are the taxpayer groups and the environmentalists???

...Why is the new stadium deal on such shaky ground? Sources think if the 49er deal were for a stadium by itself, it would be an easier sell to voters. The shopping mall is the killer, one source told **Calpeek**. "Why would you go to Hunter's Point to shop?" Revenue from both the stadium and shopping mall will help pay off the city's revenue bonds. But if the shopping mall's a flop, then things could get very sticky...

...So why is Reilly doing this? Sources say it's *get even time* with Mayor Willie. Bad feelings have existed between Reilly and Brown for years. Stay tuned...

FULL METAL JACKET: WILL THERE BE POLITICAL FALLOUT FROM THE NO. HOLLYWOOD GUNFIGHT?

Editor's note: No one has the answer to this question about the political fallout from the Feb. 28th gunfight after a botched robbery at the BofA bank in North Hollywood, but already there are some questions being raised. In addition, we've got some details about new gun legislation in Sacto. Here's our report & analysis...

...So what have we learned from this latest incident involving dead gunmen Larry Eugene Phillips Jr. and Emil Dechebal Matasareanu? #1 - No law now on the books or any future law would have stopped these guys from getting the kinds of assault weapons, commando gear, etc. they used Feb. 28th. #2 - **Calpeek** sources believe Phillips & Matasareanu should have been charged with felony gun law violations in 1993, when they were stopped and arrested by the Glendale PD for illegally carrying handguns and what our source says was at least one machine-gun. Instead, they were charged by the L.A. Co. DA's office with a *misdemeanor* and served about 4 months in jail...

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...When you combine the events of '93 with the Feb. 28th melee, it raises questions: 1) How did these guys avoid prison back in '93? Possession of a machine-gun is a no probation/go to prison offense which has been on the books since 1989 (bill written by then Assemblywoman Maxine Waters and backed by the NRA). 2) No info as yet from the BATF as to where the duo got the guns they used in the Feb. 28th shooting, but a conviction of machine-gun possession, even if treated as a misdemeanor offense, still bars anyone from acquiring or possessing any gun. And finally 3) Who was responsible for giving these guys back their guns and other equipment that the Glendale PD confiscated in '93? CA Penal Code sec. 12028 flatly states that any gun that is carried or possessed illegally is supposed to be treated as "contraband and forfeited to law enforcement." Bottomline: lots of finger pointing between the judge in this case and the DA's office...

...New bills: 1) AB 786 by Mike Machado(D-Stockton) would provide \$25 million to educate all law enforcement personnel about gun laws already on the books, but which aren't being properly used. Sources say most cops and even more DAs don't have a clue about gun laws. This bill is drafted by legislative gun gurus Irwin Nowick & Bill Cavala, who have written many of Calif.'s gun laws. The gurus are frustrated over the lack of enforcement of laws on the books. 2) AB 991 by Don Perata(D-Alameda) would ban the sale, manufacture and possession of large-capacity magazines(10 or more bullets). But it's very difficult to enforce this kind of law because there are no serial numbers on magazines, thus registration becomes a nightmare...

...FYI: Is the Roberti-Roos Assault Weapons law still on solid legal footing? NO. There are at least 2 cases now pending before the CA Supreme Court which could cause the law to be overturned: Dingman vs. Santa Clara Co. and Harrot vs. Kings Co. In both cases, local DAs prosecuted assault weapons violations, only to be told by the AG's office that the weapons weren't on the banned list. Stay tuned...

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CAMPAIGN '98: CALIF. GUBERNATORIAL POLITICS.

Editor's note: For this brief update & analysis, **Calpeek** will be using survey data from The Field Poll (Feb. 11-17, 797 registered voters) and from The Holm Group in S.F. (Feb. 5-9, 600 likely voters). Most of the recent news centers on the still wide open battle among the Demos...

...On March 2 & 3 Demo millionaire businessman Al Checchi huddled with his key campaign staff in DC. Included were media consultant Bob Shrum, consultant Darry Sragow, pollster Mark Penn, campaign press secretary Julie Buckner and Checchi political advisor Bob Burkett. The 2-day general strategy session marked the first time that all the key players have been together mapping strategy and going over some extensive research (focus group data as opposed to polling) which has been compiled for the new campaign...

...Back in Calif. (before the Checchi gathering), at the home of longtime Feinstein support Roz Wyman, an equally powerful group of pros met with U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein (& husband Dick Blum) to once again go over the pros & cons of a DiFi run in '98. The key players there were L.A./Demo power broker Bill Wardlaw, DiFi media consultant Bill Carrick, consultant Kam Kuwata and consultant Joe Cerrell. Sources insist DiFi has NOT made any final decisions, although there is a feeling she's leaning toward a run. It would be foolish for the Checchi campaign, or any Demo campaign, not to assume she's running...

...**Polling Data**: Here's the way the 2 new surveys evaluate the **image ratings** of the various candidates. The first number is from Field and the second from The Holm Group. The only surprises on the list of potential candidates compiled by Field was John Garamendi's name on the Demo side and L.A. Mayor Richard Riordan's name on the GOP side...

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Favor.</u>	<u>Unfavor.</u>	<u>N/O or unknown</u>
Lungren(R)	49 / 42	23 / 18	28 / 41
Riordan(R)	45 / -	16 / -	39 / -
Feinstein(D)	57 / 50	32 / 32	11 / 18
Davis(D)	45 / 39	14 / 17	41 / 44
Panetta(D)	32 / 36	23 / 21	45 / 44
Garamendi(D)	28 / -	13 / -	59 / -
Connell(D)	29 / 30	7 / 10	64 / 60
Checchi(D)	4 / 7	2 / 8	94 / 85

...**One-On-One Data:** In the open primary, with voters (regardless of party) being able to cast a ballot for whomever they want, here's how Field's survey turned out: Feinstein 27%, Riordan 13%, Lungren 11%, Panetta 10%, Davis 8%, Garamendi 5%, Connell 3%, Checchi 0% and undecided 23%...

...It may be early, but here's some spin from **Calpeek** sources about the meaning of this data. 1) AG Dan Lungren's GOP base is *suspect* and he may be weaker than insiders think. In an open primary, part of his GOP base could easily defect to a pro-business Demo. 2) While DiFi has the best numbers in this poll, you'd expect her to, given her name ID & profile. And 3) Despite the fact that Checchi didn't score in this part of the poll, he must be taken seriously because he's prepared to spend \$25 million. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

■ **Bragg II** - Palm Springs developer Mark Bragg will make a second attempt to qualify an initiative that would permit him to install slot machines at his Palm Springs card club. The initiative itself will be almost identical to the one which was circulated last year, but failed to qualify. Sources say the the text of Bragg II to be submitted in about 3 weeks to the AG's office for title & summary...

■ **Gov. Moonbeam Makes News** - One thing about former CA Gov. Jerry Brown: he still knows how to make frontpage news. Headline in the Mar. 2nd (Sunday) Oakland Tribune: *Port of entry. Is commission Brown's opening into Oakland politics?* Interesting story by Diana Williams, who says that Brown is lobbying Mayor Elihu Harris very hard for a seat on the Oakland Port Commission. It's considered a real plum appointment and is a very powerful commission. Standing in the way of Brown's appointment: Oakland Councilman Ignacio De La Fuente, who would be Brown's key opponent should the former governor decide to run for Oakland mayor in '98 - which seems likely. FYI: The Tribune has endorsed Brown's bid to be on the Port Commission...

■ **Willie Williams vs. L.A. City** - From the way L.A. Police Chief Willie Williams' lawyers are bad mouthing

the L.A. Police Commission in particular and the City in general, there's no way the chief can keep his job as L.A.'s top cop. **Calpeek** sources also agree that Williams' demand for \$3 million or I'll sue was a massive PR blunder. Now both the L.A. Times and KNX Radio have editorialized for the Chief to move on and lots of folks who used to really like Williams are now saying, *Just go and don't collect any settlement*. Odds of the Police Commission renewing Williams' contract: *zero, zip, nada, never, no way...*

■ **Coastal Commission Politics** - Sources say Assembly Speaker Cruz Bustamante(D) may soon make some additional appointments to the CA Coastal Commission, but before he does he's going to lose former Assemblyman Bob Campbell(D-Martinez), who has already announced his resignation from the panel. He served about 2-3 months. Said to be lobbying hard for a job on the commission is another ex member of the CA Assembly, Mike Gotch(D)...

■ **Voter ID** - Sec. of State Bill Jones(R) is sponsoring legislation to require that voters present ID at the polling place. Under this bill, AB 383 by Dick Ackerman(R-Fullerton), acceptable documents would include a CA driver's license, CA ID card, valid voter registration card, a sample ballot mailed to the voter at his/her home address. 12 other States require ID, including Hawaii...

■ **Kopp On the Warpath** - State Sen. Quentin Kopp (I-SF), himself eyeing a run for Statewide office (AG), has introduced SB 1097, which would ban insurance firms (and their executives + agents) from making any campaign contributions to the State Insurance Commissioner or any candidate for that post. FYI: In '94, Chuck Quackenbush(R) received about 70% of his campaign funds from the insurance industry (\$2.4 million). Quackenbush plans to seek reelection in '98...

■ **New Polling Data on Pot** - From Lake Research on the subject of allowing doctors to prescribe *marijuana for medical purposes*: 60% favor, 30% oppose, 9% don't know and 1% refused to answer. And on the question of the Feds punishing MDs who prescribe pot, 68% say there should be NO punishment, while 24% think doctors should be penalized. (Feb. 5-9, 1,002 adults)...

LATINO/JEWISH LEADERSHIP SUMMIT MARCH 21.

The Nat'l Assn. of Latino Elected & Appointed Officials, the American Jewish Cmt. and the Tomas Rivera Policy Inst. will host a leadership summit from 12 noon to 5 p.m., Mar. 21, Pacific Telesis Building, L.A. The summit will explore and discuss the social and political Latino/Jewish connection in L.A. County. For info ☎ Joan Alexander (310)282-8080 ext. 310 or ☎ Arturo Vargas (213)262-8503...

SPRING '97 ELECTIONS: CITY & COUNTY CONTESTS.

Editor's note: Here is Part VII of **Calpeek's** continuing coverage of city & county Spring Elections. This week: results from the Mar. 4th elections...

...There were some **49** different elections scattered throughout Calif. on Mar. 4th, but most of the elections were in L.A. Co. and there were some interesting trends. Because of Prop. 218, a number of cities placed tax items on the ballot which had already been approved by council action. **Calpeek** counted at least 8 cities where tax measures were approved (utility taxes in most cases). Only a small handful were rejected. West Hollywood voters rejected a *term limit* proposal; while Monterey Park voters approved a plan to ban billboards not relating to the use of property...

...**Big Losers:** In terms of candidate contests, there were a number of incumbents who didn't win new terms, but the most notable cases were in Bell Gardens, where incumbents Frank Duran, George Deitch & Rodolfo Garcia were bounced; in Commerce, where incumbents Art Navarro & Robert Cornejo were defeated; and in So. El Monte, where incumbents Albert Perez & Vera Valdiviez were knocked off. In Carson, Mayor Michael Mitoma was trailing Peter Fajardo by only 28 votes (34.5% to 34.2%). It may take several weeks to get this contest in the books. It's possible Mitoma angered Carson voters with his Measure "J" to outlaw safe & sane fireworks. Unofficial returns show NO on "J" leading by a margin of 59% to 41%...

...There was a successful recall in Hawaiian Gardens, where Councilman Rene Flores was ousted and Alan Calcote took his place on the council. And voters once again approved Measure "B" (61%) to authorize a **card club** in Hawaiian Gardens...

...**Big Winners:** Azusa Mayor Cristina Madrid, El

Monte Mayor Patricia Wallach, Gardena Mayor Don Dear, West Hollywood Mayor Paul Koretz; incumbent Councilmembers Vicki Reynolds & Thomas Levyn of Beverly Hills, Judy Chu of Monterey Park; and new Councilmembers Kathy Howard of West Covina and Jeff Prang of West Hollywood...

...Another *big winner*: in the special election to replace Deborah Ortiz on the Sacto City Council, Lauren Hammond got 41% to beat Genevieve Shiroma (who got 37%) in a winner-take-all battle. Hammon was backed by the public safety unions (Sacto POA & firefighters). The big loser: Sacto Mayor Joe Serna. Stay tuned...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

- Mark Bogetich has been hired as an AE in the Sacto office of Stoorza, Ziegau, Metzger & Hunt. Most recently Bogetich was research director of the NO on 211 campaign...

- Campaign/pa/govt. relations consultant Christopher Crotty has joined S.F.-based Solem & Associates as an Acct. Supervisor. Crotty's firm in San Diego will continue to operate as a joint venture with Solem...

- CA Sec. of State Bill Jones(R) has named William H. Deaver to the CA Fair Political Practices Commission(FPPC). He replaces Deborah Seiler. FYI: William is Michael Deaver's brother...

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